## FIGHTING THEM OVER

What Our Veterans Have to Say About Their Old Campaigns.

UNION VS. REBEL CAVALRY. The Superiority of the Former Proved on Many Bloody Fields.



month of May, 1863, the Union Cavalry Corps in the East was organized, with Gen. Pleasonton in command, The weak divisions, commanded by Gens. Buford, D. McM. Gregg and Duffie. Afterward-June 28, 1863,-Duffie's and Stahl's were united, and constituted the Third Di-

vision, under Gen. Judson Kilpstrick. The First Division, Gen. Buford commanding consisted of three brigades-Gamble's, Devins's and Merritt's. The First Brigade was composed of three regiments-8th Ill., 3d Ind. and 12th Ill., if my memory serves me correctly.

Up to this time the theater of war was not considered very favorable for cavalry. Men accustomed to the use of both horses and arms were very few in the North, while in the South men had been accustomed to both all their lives, and to the very end the best blood in the land rode after Stuart, Hampton and the Lees. The strength of the Union Cavalry Corps was estimated at 8,000, while the Confederate corps numbered over 10,000 effective men.

Early in June, 1863, Gen. Hooker ordered Pleasonton to go to Cuipeper and "beat up" Stuart, and learn, if possible, the position of Lee's army. June 3 found Pleasonton with his in force from Madison Courthouse to Orange cavalry at Warrenton Junction, where he remained until the 9th, when he ordered Buford to cross the Rappahanneck at Beverly's Ford, and Greeg and Duffle at Kelly's Ford. After trying to get in Meade's rear-that is, between

tween the Rappahannock River and Cuipeper, away. The enemy, receiving reinforcements, returned, and drave Gregg from the position, and so they both kept it up for nearly the whole | perform day-first one would have it and then the

ing like the devil and Tom Walker, and look not. The train when on the march was over for Buford and his men.

fought desperately, but Buford was there to

Right here I will state, without danger of contradiction, that Gen. Buford was one of the very best Generals we had. He had not the dath of some other leaders, but his "staying qualities" more than compensated for that, We felt assured when he had command that we would not be called upon to go where he would not lead, and that he would not expose us to nancres ary danger for the mere gain of glory for himself. He was cautious but sure, and never threw away the lives of his men for nothing. He was brave, but not to rashness. He was very popular with the boys, as much so as "Pap" Thomas of the West. I have seen him on the skirmish-line with the men, encouraging them to "go forward" and "hold fast." I have seen him with his shirt off skirmishing for graybacks with the boys, too. But I must resume.

match that day. It was "nip and tuck" all day long. In one of the charges Gen, W. H. F. Lee was wounded in front of Buford. Some time during the afternoon Gen. Pleasonton, having captured some important orders and dispatches belonging to the Confederates, considered ble mission accomplished, and ordered the withdrawal of his entire command, which was effected leisurely and without molestation, and at sunset the river again flowed be-

tween the opposing forces. This lad been, in the main, a true cavalry battle, which settled the question of MON-SUPERIORITY OF THE REBEL CAVALRY

an important one. The Union cavalry remain- trying to hold a toe-hold on the brink of the ed at Warrenton Junction a few days, and then was on the march again.

at Aldie, where a fierce battle took place, in at short range. Our regiment was moved down riffic that to was fought, when Stuart, finding | right and their left. Our Colonel (Dilworth) was that he could not gain any advantage, retreated.

12th Ill in its battles and skirmishes. As I | the 52d Ohio, Instead of that he gave the order, have stated before, we were put in the First | "Forward-Guide center-Double quick! Brigade, with the 8th Ill. and 3d Ind.; Col. | taking us entirely beyond all support, and run-Gamble, of the 3d, commanding the brigade. | ning us into a rebel brigade in the edge of the Col. Gamble just suited us, for he was as un- woods. We drove their first regiment (the 15th pretending as any old farmer, but a braver man | Miss.) back in a hurry, when we were charged never lived. He and Buford were our idols. by the other three regiments of the brigade-After leaving Upperville Buford's Division | the 2d, 6th and 9th Ark. There were only five hugged the Blue Ridge Mountains on the east | companies that received the force of this charge, until it reached the Potomac River at Edwards's I was in the second company from the right Ferry, where it soon crossed over, and was on | when the charge was made, the colors of the June 27 in Frederick City, Md. Buford stopped | 2d Ark, coming out of the woods within two there long enough to hang a rebel spy or two. | rods of me. We had a lively racket for some On June 28 he was at Boonsboro, on the 29th | five minutes, and the company to which I beat Emmittaburg, and on the afternoon of the longed lost 30 men out of 43 in that time. I 30th reached Gettysburg. We found Gettys- fired some half-dozen shets and received burg occurred by the rebels belonging to Gen. | minie-ball through each arm, and was captured Pettigrew's Brigade, who retired at our ap- in that condition, and went eventually to proach. The citizens were very much rejoiced | Hotel de Wirz minus my right arm. As to who to see us, and the ladies sang, waved their | crossed Peach Tree Creek after we did and what handkerchiefs, and threw kisses to us from | they may have done this deponent saith not,

every window and balcony in the town. Buford, seeing the importance of this posi- | SIGLEY, Co. B, 85th III., Havana, Ill. tion, assigned Gen. Devine's Brigade to the country murth of the town, and Gamble's to that west. In a very short time our picketline extended along the east bank of a creek, from below a road running southwest toward Hagerstown, to the railroad cut northwest, and then east to another creek. As I have never been on the ground since the day of the battle, I do not remember the names of those or Eighth Corps, and held the Confederates in creeks. Buford sent out scouts on every road | check for more than 30 minutes, and with the | the plain, under a sweeping fire from the rebel to look for the enemy, and a messenger was help of the gallant Jersey Brigade repulsed batteries, which were well posted in the edge of sent to Gen. Reynolds, at Emmittsburg, in- them with great slaughter. Cowan's battery forming him of the condition of things at that | did not lose a single gun, and it was the only time. We saw Lee's camplines northwest of us | battery in the corps that saved all of its guns. about eight miles soon after midnight on the | One of our guns was brought off the field and 1st of July, and we knew that his being un so | slung under the limber-chest on account of a early meant business; but we did not dream that his business would be with us, for we thought he was on his way to Harrisburg, Pa. We were on the ziert, however, and about 7 o'clock a. m. we saw a revel flag in the far distance coming toward us, and in less than one hour from that time the first shot was fired at | deeply interested in all accounts of this battle. the advancing rebel column, which was now

mear at hand. If I remember correctly, it was one of the 8th

Ill. cavalry boys that FIRED THE FIRST SHOT, for a part of that regiment was on picket then. N. Y. Buford ordered Gamble to hold his position, if possible, until Gen. Reynolds's command could reach us. Buford sent word to Reynolds that | EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: Please allow we were attacked by the enemy in force, and | me to say a few words in regard to the crossing that be would hold fast, if possible, until at the Lacy House before Fredericksburg Dec he (Reynolds) arrived. Cambie soon had us all 11, 1862. dismounted and in line, and then began one of Comrade W. J. Church, Co. D. 7th Mich., is

to drive us from the field, but in vain. mmns, up, Calef's guns would tear great gaps in 1 H, 50th N. Y. Engineers, Elmira, N. Y.

it and soon send it flying to the rear. Gen. Buford came along the line saying, "Boys, we must hold this position until Reynolds comes up or die in the attempt." We did hold it for two long and dreadful hours. At last our ammunition began to give out, our guns became hot by rapid firing, and the rebels more desperate. We began to say, "Oh, if Reynolds would only come!" At last there is a Iull for a few minutes. We see Gen. Reynolds and staff coming across the fields in a gallop. Soon his men come running and panting, poor fellows, having double-quicked it for the last three miles. Gen. Reynolds comes riding along our line, and as he passes he smiles and praises us. He soon has his men in line, and we were ordered back to rest awhile, Gen. Buford thanks us, and we are satisfied that we have done our duty. But, alas! how many of our brave comrades have fallen. We rest for a short time, supply ourselves with ammunition, and then we go at it again. At about 4 o'clock corps consisted of three | p. m. of the same day we were put on the left flank, and when the rebels made their final attack for that day and gained their greatest advantage, met and held Lane's rebel brigade in check until we were ordered to fall back to avoid being surrounded. On the 2d and 3d we were sent here and there as occasion demanded. After those three days of terrific fighting, Lee, seeing that the star of destiny had left him, and that he was unable to fight any longer at Gettysburg, ordered a retreat. Then the cavalry had a duty to perform, i. e., "harass his rear," and we did. We kept him in trouble all the way back to Richmond. We hung on his flanks and rear and made him disgorge his ill-gotten gain. We captured his wagon-trains and thousands of his wounded men. Our brigade struck at him at Williamsport, Md., on July 6, where we captured a part of a wagon-train. We hit him again at Boonsboro, Md., on the 9th and at Funktown and Falling Water on the 11th and 14th of July, thus following him across the Potomac River. Again we tickled his flank at Chester Gap July 27 and 28. This was the last blow we aimed at him on this campaign. We were then permitted to rest a while, but not long, for some time in September (Sept. 22) the cavalry was ordered to make a reconnoissance

Courthouse and Gordonsville, Va. Lee could not be inactive very long, so in October we find him making forced marches, crossing the river all were ordered to march for | him and Washington, D. C. Leaving Hood to press Meade in front and divert his attention Brandy Station is situated about half-way be- from the main point of attack, Lee hastened by a circuitous route to try to reach the old Bull and about five miles distant from both. A few Run battlefield, and thus put himself between hundred yards north of Brandy Station is Fleet- | Meade and the Capital. But the ever-vigilant wood Hill - a commanding position. Gen. cavalry unearthed Lee's movements, and Meade Gregg found this position occupied by the ene- fell back with all due haste, reaching the old my, and some terrific fighting drove them battlefield of Bull Run only 40 minutes in advance of Lee. The cavalry being left to guard Meade's large wagon-train had a heavy task to

Hood with his corps and Stuart with his cavalry seemed determined to have that train, We will now leave Gregg and his men fight- and we were just as determined that he should eight miles long. Our first battle on what was At day reak Buford crossed and drove the called Meade's retreat was a night attack on the enemy's pickets back to St. James's Church, rebel rifle-pits near Mitchel's Ford, Rapidau attles between our cavalry on one side and the rebel cavalry and infantry on the other, After that we had skirmishing all the way from Bealeton Station to Bull Run plains, Oct. 13 to Oct. 19, 1863. When Lee found himself checkmated he fell slowly back toward his old camping ground, Meade following cautiously. Then the Union cavalry had some more harrassing to do, continuing from Thoroughfare Gap to Rappahannock Station, and lasting from Oct. 21 to Oct. 28, 1863. Soon after our old 12th Ill. Cay, was sent home to veteranize, by order of the War Department at Washington, D. C. 1 have mentioned only the battles in which the old 12th took an active part. There were many other battles in which the other divisions and brigades were engaged, not mentioned here. We fought side by side with brave men in other regiments, among them the 3d Ind. Cav., 8th Ill. Cav., 8th N. Y. Cav., 2d Me. Cav., and last,

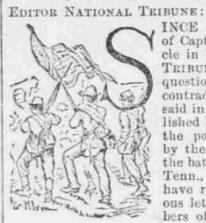
but not least, the 2d N. J. Cav.-J. M. GABD-The First-Families-of-Virginia boys had their | NER, Sergeant, Co. E, 12th Ill. Cav. Peach Tree Creek. EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: I have been waiting to hear if any of my old regiment would have anything to say about that little affair at Peach Tree Creek, and seeing an account of it by Comrade J. H. Henderson, Co. H, 86th Ill., which is the most accurate of anything that I have seen, I will relate what I know about it. On the afternoon of the 19th of July, 1864, the Third Brigade, Second Division, Fourteenth Corps, was moved down on the extreme right, near the creek, under a cross was the 52d Ohio; at any rate, we found ordered, them some 300 yards beyond the creek, at the In this respect, if no other, the battle was edge of a little cornfield, fighting for dear life, hill. Some were shooting, others were shoveling dirt and piling up rails, and the Johnnies The 17th of June found Stuart's cavalry | were scouring them from the edge of the timber which the Union cavalry were victorious. I to the creek and crossed on a foot-log, and as During the next four days there was a con- soon as the regiment could close up after crosstinual fight going on. The battle near Middle- ing, we were moved forward in line of battle burg on the 19th of June was well contested. | until we came up in line with the 52d Ohio, At Upperville on the 21st of June another ter- | with an interval of some 50 yards between our in command of the brigade. Our regiment was After this the divisions were sent out on dif- | commanded by Maj. Rider, who, I think, was ferent routes and did their work separately for | either drunk or a fool, as he received an order from the Colonel commanding brigade to move My object in this sketch is to follow the old by the right flank and close up on the left of

> for I was very busy with the Johnnies,-DAVID ton, O. Cowan's 1st N. Y. Battery at Cedar Creek. EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: I was much interested in Comrade Griffin's article on Cedar Creek in "Fighting Them Over" of a recent issue. I wish to correct him in one particular. It was true that Cowan's battery galloped out to cover the retreating men of the Nineteenth wheel that was shot off. Our loss was 23 men killed and wounded and 28 horses. The comrade states that Gen. Bidwell was killed by artillery fire. It was my impression he was mortally wounded by a minie-ball through the bowels, though of this I am not certain. I am as it was the last one I took part in. I have a painful reminder through the left thigh, received at that time. With all due consideration for the other troops engaged in that battle, I do believe the Sixth Corps saved the day,-W. E. WEBSTER, Cowan's 1st N. Y. Battery, Auburn,

Fredericksburg.

the hardest battles of the war, and, I might say, | correct when he asserts that his regiment (7th of the world, for the buttle of Gettysburg is so | Mich.) was the first and only one that crossed considered by good authority. The Union cay- in the boats manned by men of my regimentalry had proven itself more than a match for | 50th N. Y. Engineers. After we were driven the relici cavairy, and now it was to be demon- off the bridge the first time by the murderous great age of 104 and 106 respectively. My strated, and that thoroughly, too, that it could fire of the 17th Miss. Sharpshooters, that opposed great grandfathers on my mether's side were succes fully compete with double its number of us, there were so many hit in our ranks that it both killed in the war of 1812. My paternal rebel infantry. I say this without boasting, for | was necessary to make a detail out of the 19th | grandfather and two of his brothers also served a corre t statement of the facts will prove my | Mass., I think. After being repulsed, there assertions. The rebels tried again and again | was a call for volunteers from the 7th Mich., when the whole regiment stepped forward; Buford was there to stay, and stay he did, but as we only had seven boats at liberty, they We had breech-loading guns, while the rebels | were filled, and the balance of the 7th crossed | had the old muzzle-leading rifles. We could after the bridge was finished, which was done age of 16 years, and served until my discharge shoot three times, if not more, to their once, in about 10 or 15 minutes after the boats at the close of the war. Beat it who can.and, besides, we had Calef's Battery (A. 2d U. S. | reached the other shore. I was in the boat in | Art., with us, which was one of the best in the | which the Lieutenant-Colonel was wounded, army. We could hold any skirmish-line the and know I am correct in my assertion that the reless could put against us in check, and when | 7th Mich. was the regiment that went over in they would send a battle line, with close col- the boats .- D. F. Du Bors, First Sergeant, Co.

FRANKLIN. Capt. Wolf Replies to Capt. Conner.



INCE the publication of Capt. Conner's article in THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE of Jan. 26 questioning and even contradicting what I said in my article published Dec. 22 last as to the position occupied by the 175th Ohio at the battle of Franklin, Tenn., Nov. 30, 1864, I have received numerous letters from members of the regiment assuring me that I was

correct in every particular. Theu, again, I see an article written by Capt. A. F. Deniston, of Co. C of our regiment, which corroborates what I said, except in one thing. He says that the regiment was on the left of the cottongin, with the right resting on the Columbia pike. I am sure that he did not intend to say on the left, as we were on the right of the gin, as we faced our works.

Now, Capt. Conner, I frankly admit one error in my article. Instead of saying, as I did, that our left was opposite the cotton-gin, I should have said that the left of the regiment extended nearly to it. You assure me that your article was meant as pleasantry, but say that you have been calling upon others to disprove what I assert, and that I am mistaken. Captain, I know whereof I speak, and do not have to call upon anyone to convince me that I am correct, although, as I said, quite a number of comrades have voluntarily written me in regard to the correctness of my statement. The regiment you saw from your very advantageous position charge up to the works, which were abandoned, as you state, by the apparently cowardly men of the 104th Ohio, was the 175th Ohio, notwithstanding your positive assertion that we never occupied the 104th Ohio's or any other front line of works on the left of the Columbia pike. Where the 104th were compelled to abandon their works on the left of the pike is where we met the rebels, and where we stood within a very few minutes after the 104th got out of the way. I mean those of that regiment that made way for Wagner to come in. I will here explain. A short time before that battle commenced we were temporarily assigned to the Third Brigade, Third Division, Twenty-third Corps, and took a position on the left of the Columbia pike. Now, Captain, I mean the Columbia pike, not the Carter Creek pike nor any other pike, but to the left of the Columbia pike, just where you have reserve marked in your diagram. Behind us a few paces was the 16th Ky., and in the rear of that, as I was told, the 12th Ky. If you had said that Riley's command was composed of the 100th, 104th, 175th Ohio, 8th Tenn., 12th and 16th Ky., you would

have been correct. After what the 175th Ohio did and suffered on that memorable day, her surviving members will never consent nor allow anyone to try to pluck the honors she so nobly and so gloriously won on that occasion. Our loss in the charge where Start was with the main body of his River, Oct. 10, 1863; next at Stephensburg, Oct. was very heavy, amounting to over 150 killed cavalry. Duford attacked him vigorously, and 11, and Brandy Station, Oct. 12, 1863, These and wounded. Capt.W. B. Logan, Co. D, was shot ground steadily all day. The rebels were no small affairs I assure you, but regular through the head leading his company up to

> I do not agree with your Captain that the 104th Ohio, or a part of them, left the works on account of a misunderstood order. There can be no doubt but what Wagner's orders were to at once retire behind the works should be discover Hood advancing in full force, and that the 104th Ohio were instructed to let him in that Wagner disregarded the orders of his superior officer, which was not to stand except against cavalry and skirmishers, but to fall back behind the main line. When assured by his officers that Hood's entire force was coming,

his reply was, "Never mind; fight them." Wagner was a brave officer and a great fighter, and his men were as true as their leader. In this instance he was rash and imperiled the safety of the men. Had he done as ordered, and retired to the main line when he should, I am satisfied that the 104th Ohio would not have been accused of apparent cowardice. The 104th had to do what they did, or in trying to beat back the enemy would have slain friends and foe alike. The thing proper for them to do was to let Wagner in. In order to do this they had to retire from the center. Had they not done so they would undoubtedly have been trodden under foot. What Wagner's men did after they got behind the main line I know not-I mean those that were not captured-bus this I know, that as soon as they were out of the way the advancing rebel hordes were bravely met, and in time repulsed. The 175th Ohio helped to do it, and remained in the lively fire of musketry. The first regiment to center until the retreat to Nashville was

You misquote me again when you undertake to repeat what I said about Licut. Kimball. I said Lieut, Kimball, of Co. C, 104th Ohio; not of the 175th Ohio, as you have it. What I said he did can be corroborated by eye-witnesses, I am sure, as well as by history. Whitelaw Reid in his History of Ohio in the War, makes prominent mention of the fact. You were also mistaken in regard to the position of the 15th Ind. battery. One of the prominent farmers near here, a member of that battery, Mr. Thomas Tuttle, says that they were out of ammunition, were over the river, and took no part in the engagement. Again, Captain, may I not justly accuse you of getting a little mixed on that occasion, -or, at least, it was too big an affair for you to take it all in at a glance, as the time was too limited. Then, as you say, it has been a long time since, and memory is often at fault. will here add that I have depended upon my diary kept while in the service for the accuracy of some of my statements. I do not question the fact that you saw a certain portion of our works abandoned and at once filled by the reserves, and I give you credit for believing that you were correct; but the trouble is, you were not aware of our assignment and the position we occupied, and probably did not know of our existence, as we had not been in the field but a month and a half. We had been in command of the post at Columbia, Tenn., with detachments of the regiment at the various blockouses between Pulaski and Spring Hill.

I trust that I have said enough to convince lapt. Conner that he might be mistaken as to the position of the 175th Ohio on that occasion, as well as in other things, regardless of his very positive assertions to the contrary,-W. P. Wolf, Captain, Co. G, 175th Ohio, Wilming-

The Pennsylvania Reserves. EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: In your issue of April 26, the author of " A Boy Spy in Dixie" | from its first organization till my discharge in says "Meade's Division, of the old Sixth Corps." That division, best known as Pennsylvania Reserves, was the Third Division of the First Corps, then commanded by the lamented Reynolds, a former commander of the division This division did make a famous charge across the railroad; held the ground for more than three hours, keeping the enemy from their guns unmy own company, we rallied with just half the number of men we started in with, and lost all commissioned officers on duty-Captain killed

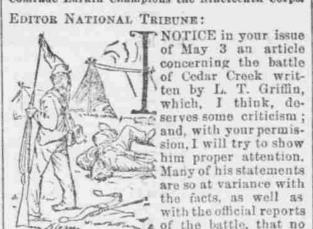
and First Lieutenant wounded. While this was a famous charge, and one perhans as hopeless and fatal as that of Pickett, yet much credit was due all of the participants n that bloody struggle. I have always believed, however, that had the support came up promptly, as we hoped, we could have turned the enemy's right and thereby changed the fate of all bullet-hole the "Boy Spy" speaks of, but know the hat had a good opportunity to get riddled. -M. I. BEAN, Co. G, 10th Pa. Reserves, St.

Charles, Iowa. A Fine Military Record, EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: Seeing in a recent number a communication from a New York comrade as to his soldierly lineage, I will

give my record. My great-grandfathers on my father's side were both wounded, and both lived to the in the same war. My father and two of his brothers, also one of my mother's brothers, were soldiers in the war of the rebellion, my father re-enlisting and having two honorable discharges. I enlisted in the 193d N. Y. at the WM. SHAFER, Richland, Neb.

It is a duty you owe to your comrades to get at

CEDAR CREEK. Comrade Lufkin Champions the Nineteenth Corps.



concerning the battle of Cedar Creek written by L. T. Griffin, which, I think, deserves some criticism; and, with your permis-sion, I will try to show him proper attention. Many of his statements are so at variance with the facts, as well as with the official reports of the battle, that no one who is well informed as to the history of the war will give much credit to his story; but I wish to take issue with him in regard to some of his misrepre-

ing them without contradiction, he will by and by begin to believe them himself. His story about the pickets in front of the Nineteenth Corps being relieved by Confederates in Federal uniform, is one of the sort of camp rumors that were constantly circulating. Probably Mr. Griffin's diary contains a large and miscelianeous assortment of them. The fact is, the pickets of the Nineteenth Corps were at their posts till they came in to take their places in line of battle. He says that Early with Wharton's Division advanced to Hupp's Hill and waited inside of our picket-line for the attacks on the flanks of our army. Now, according to the official map, Hupp's Hill is more than a mile and half from the nearest point in our line; so, if his story is true, the pickets were too far out and might have been fighting all

sentations, for fear that if he continues repeat-

day without those in camp hearing a shot. Somewhat further on he tries to convey the idea that Early, with only 8,500 men, whipped the Nineteenth Corps with 12,000, and that while the Sixth Corps was going into action on the run, the Nineteenth was flying in confusion to the rear.

Now for the figures and facts. The official returns show that the number of officers and men in the Nineteenth Corps present for duty about 1,800, was at Winchester, and two regiments of the Second Brigade, numbering 700, at Martinsburg, leaving less than 9,000 available for the battle. What Early's force was is not exactly known; but on Sept, 30 he had 8,500, and before the battle he was joined by Kershaw's Division of infantry, numbering 3,800, and Rosser's Brigade of cavalry; besides which large numbers of his absent rejoined their commands, so that his force must have been more than 13,500. Now, the official reports show that for nearly an hour, from the time the Eighth Corps gave way till Getty's Division of the Sixth Corps reached the pike, the Nineteenth Corps fought Early's whole army; that the corps did not fall back until ordered to do so by Gen. Wright; that Grover's Division was attacked on front, flank and rear at | them .- CECIL CLAY, Washington, D. C. the same time, and that when the orders came to fall back several hundred men on the left flank of the division were unable to get out of the trap and were captured. Ricketts's Divisthe afternoon of May 6 at the Wilderness, and the veterans of Seymonr's and Shaler's Brigades remember well what the result was. Afterwards he asks, "Where was the officer commanding a brigade, holding up his men in

the open field when surrounded by three times his number?" As that exactly describes Col. Thomas, of the 8th Vt., who during the battle commanded the Second Brigade, First Division, Nineteenth Corps, I answer that he was where his duty called him. A comparison of the casualties in the Sixth and Nineteenth Corps does not show much dif-

ference in proportion to the number engaged. The Sixth Corps, with 10,679 officers and men engaged, had 255 killed and 1,666 wounded; the Nineteenth, with 8,800 officers and men engaged, had 243 killed and 1,352 wounded. There seems to be a settled purpose on the part of a few members of the Sixth Corps to njure the reputation of the Nineteenth Corps; they apparently thinking that they have not their due share of credit while anyone else has any. The Sixth Corps was undoubtedly a fine body of men, and the men of the Nineteeth will always be ready to unite with other loyal men in honoring them. The corps has, however, a few like Mr. Griffin, who were not particularly dangerous to the enemy during the war, but who have done an immense amount of fighting since the suppression of the rebellion, using a weapon similar to that with which Samson slaughtered the Philistines. His efforts to injure the Eighth and Nineteenth Corps,

more especially the Nineteenth, can only be the

result of a spirit of vainglorious boasting or

As for the Nineteenth Corps, it wishes to make no apologies, and has no reason to blush for its record. For a long time it was the only corps in the Department of the Gulf, and the exigencies of the service were such that the corps was never together, except at the siege of men of the corps fought in 18 battles, beside skirmishes, and every battle without exception was a Union victory. Eleven of the battles they fought alone, and in seven they were in company with other troops. Two of their battles, I think, deserve special mention. Aug. 5, 1862, at Baton Rouge, La., Williams's Brigade, in their first battle, fighting without veteran Division; June 18, 1863, Fort Butler, applied for a pension with the above result. La., garrisoned by less than 200 men, mostly convalescents, belonging to the 28th Me., a ninemonths regiment, was assaulted by 2,000 rebels belonging to the army of Gen. Dick Taylor. After a struggle lasting three hours and a half, luring which the enemy at one time gained ossession of a part of the fort, they were repulsed, with a loss of nearly 500 killed and wounded and more than 100 captured.

During its service the corps captured more than 40 flags and 70 cannon, and never lost a cannon nor flag until the battle of Cedar Creek, and the records of the War Department show that at Cedar Creek, of the six flags captured from the enemy by our infantry, four were taken by members of the Nineteenth Corps. The corps was always ready to fight the enemy when called upon during the war, but now we don't intend to fight any other Union soldiers, unless strictly in self-defense. When attacked, however, we shall strike back, and shall try to hurt. I write this in defense of the Nineteenth Corps, to which I belonged most of the time

Spears in the Rebel Army.

1865.—E. B. LUFKIN, Weld, Me.

EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: In reading over my old files of THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE, | in regard to the last review of the old Six-I find quite a controversy in regard to spears | teenth Corps. in the rebel army. One writer tells about see- | As I was at Montgomery from the 26th of the timber; got beyond, but was forced back to | ing a lot at Knoxville, Tenn., and says the spear | May, 1865, to the 26th of March, 1866, I know was about 10 inches long and two wide, and | the Sixteenth Corps was on grand review the fastened into long handles. I have just such a 29th, 30th and 31st days of May, 1865. til the line on the right was forced back. Of spear in my possession. It is made of an old Gen. A. J. Smith was there. It was in a file, and is pointed. The long handle was cut | large plantation about two miles from Montthe Sth Mo. Zouaves, who captured it at or near 1885, was the last time the Sixteenth Corps was thirsty looking weapon has been doing duty | Geneseo, Kan. here in Crawford County, O., as a "corn cutter." Last Fall my children used the rebel cheese-knife to cut up sugar-cane. Does the Bible say anything about the spears being turned into "corn cutters?" I would like to bear from the blacksmith who made this dangerousconcerned. I well remember the old hat Gen. looking weapon, or the brave rebel who car-Meade were on that occasion. I did not see the | ried it. - James N. McCurdy, Co. C, 49th Ohio, Bucyrus, O.

Battery K. 4th U.S. Art.

EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: In your issue of March 8, 1888, Col. Thomas Rafferty makes a statement in regard to Battery K, 4th U. S. Art., (of which I was a member,) which is not correct. I was a private (No. 2) in Battery K, 4th U.S. Art., at the time of the battle of Gettysburg, and at no time of the three days' fight at Gettysburg was there any guns left on both served all through the Revolutionary war, the battlefield, as I was present with my bat-

tery, under command of Lieut, Seeley. Lieut. Seeley was severely wounded on the 2d of July, and when taken from the field (wounded) Lieut, E. S. Smith was put in command. The latter will approve what I say, as will all the members of Battery K, and I think it is very unjust for Col. Thomas Rafferty to make such statements.-PATRICK CONLON, Battery K, 4th U. S. Art., West Hurly, N. Y.

If each subscriber to THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE will charge himself with getting one new subscriber the circulation of the paper least one new subscriber for THE NATIONAL | will be doubled at once, and with little trouble. Let each subscriber try it.

FORT HARRISON.

Gen. Clay Corrects a Pennsylvania Comrade. EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: In your issue of April 19, among the "Random Shots" is a statement by A. R. Depew, of Co. A, 188th Pa., that "Fort Harrison was stormed by the Third Brigade, Third Division, Eighteenth Corps, and not by the First Division, as stated in a recent communication in The NATIONAL TRIBUNE by Gen. Clay."

The only reason I take any notice of this is, because I wish to attract the attention of the numerous readers of your valuable paper to the loose way in which people make statements as to events and persons about which they know nothing, and for which they have no authority. In my account of the capture of Fort Harri- The 89th and the detachment of the 8th Conn.

son I said, as to those who had been writing about this same subject before, "A number of threw up a temporary breastwork, using tin these were enlisted men, who in attending to | plates and cups for spades, and that a sharp their duty could have had but a limited field | engagement took place after dark, in which the of observation and an imperfect idea of what | rebels attempted to drive us from our position, went on elsewhere than in their immediate | but without success. vicinity; while some who were wounded be-

and division he belonged to.

the first color-the writer. I also called atten- all, must have fallen. tion to the fact that, of the three brigade com- Now, in regard to the crossing at Fredericksmanders, if one were more than another to be | burg, I have one correction to make. I was commended, Col. Roberts, commanding the detailed on that day as the Colonel's Orderly, Third Brigade, should have most credit. He and stood beside Gen. Barnside and the Colonel handled his brigade admirably; it never fal- | when the order was given, and the whole plan tered nor wavered, but went steadily on, pushed over the parapet and were first on and guage, as near as I can. He said: "Colonel, I in the works; and he did this while suffering | want 200 men from your regiment-volunteers, from a violent fever, with which he had been con- if you can get them, if not, detail them-tofight was over. If Mr. Depew will read my arti- artillery will keep up an incessant fire, and cle a few times, he will see where his own regi- when they strike the opposite shore I will ment was while the fight went on. It was give a signal, when the artillery will cease firat that time, was not quite 11,300. Of these there, in the Third Brigade, First Division, ling, the men to charge at once, and either drive the Third Brigade, First Division, numbering Eighteenth Corps, and lost some men. Eighteenth Corps, and lost some men.

since the beginning of June, 1864, and remain- | volunteers was made and the quota filled in less ed in it until the Eighteenth and Tenth Corps | time than it takes me to write it, and the plan were consolidated, some time after Fort Harri- successfully carried out. The balance of the son, when the Third Brigade, First Division, regiment crossed on the pontoon bridge as soon Eighteenth Corps, became the Third Brigade, as it was completed. With these small additions Third Division, Twenty-fourth Corps. Fort and corrections I think Comrade Groody has Harrison was not taken by a brigade, but by a given a correct statement of the facts as I division-the First Division, Eighteenth Corps. | know them to be by personal knowledge obdid the charge of that sort on Fort Gilmer by | Musician, 89th N. Y., Courtland, N. Y. a regiment or two at a time. The division lost 700 men during the day, most of them in the assault on Fort Harrison. The fire that inflicted that loss, concentrated on a brigade would have left it too weak to do anything with the defenders of the works had it reached

Hovey's Division at Champion Hills.

EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: The battle of Champion Hills, May 16, 1863, was won by the soldier fought in this engagement with courage and staying qualities never excelled and but rarely equaled. Logan did all that was required of him. Crocker in like manner, as was his custom, came up to the full measure in the part performed by his command. But what shall be said when we come to the division that bore the unequal pressure so long and so successfully on that hot May day? Must Hovey's Division yield the palm to either of the other two, or to both of them? Certain am I that neither the troops under Logan nor Crocker are going to make any such claims. The record of that day's work is made up, and no amount of writing can wrest from Hovey's Division whatever there may be in the way of precedence in a battle where all did so well. loved Logan in life, mourned him in death, and will cherish his memory while I last; but there is a point in your article in THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE of April 19 on making the anniversary of the battle a Logan day that I cannot subscribe to. Not one of Hovey's soldiers, however much they admired Logan, will assent to the proposition that the battle in question was won by his division. It is neither ingenuous, necessary nor appropriate to seek to magnify the deeds of Gen. Logan at the expense o others. His record stands so eminent that it actually detracts from his renown to claim for him prominence on an occasion where his own troops know and history has recorded that the burden of the work done on that day fell to Hovey's Division. The monument to Logan will be erected, and Hovey's Division will retain its place in history .- GEO. GRINDLEY, Co. E, 56th Ohio, New Orleans, La.

A Chinese Pensioner. EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: The following has been going the rounds of the papers:

Last week the name of Ah-Lin was placed on In addition to the siege of Port Hudson the \$8 per month. Ah-Lin is the first Chinaman to receive a pension from the United States Government. He is a resident of San Francisco, but bears allegiance to the Celestial Empire. Ah-Lin enlisted in the United States Navy as a landsman less than a decade ago, and shipped in the Hartford. This vessel went to South America, and after cruising around for sevaral months steamed into the harbor of one of the cities on the coast of Peru. While firing a salute a gun burst, and so fractured Ah-Lin's left leg that he was made a cripple for life breastworks, soundly whipped Breekinridge's | This occurred Aug. 28, 1884, and May 30, 1885, he I will now claim for another Chinaman the

honor of being the first of his race to receive a pension from the United States Government, and also the first Chinese Grand Army man. When the writer had the honor being Departvania, and while on an official visit to the Posts of Indiana County, May 19, 1885, two recruits were mustered into Post 28, of Inenlisted in Co. D, 81st Pa., and served until writer does not know. He is married to an | when the charge was made. American woman, and resided in Indiana CURTIN, Roland, Pa.

Last Review of the Sixteenth Corps. EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: I think Serg't

A. E. Glanville, Co. F, 10th Minn., is mistaken

off, leaving a bandhold, by F. E. McCurdy, of gomery, and I say that the 31st day of May, Vicksburg, Miss. Since the war this blood- ever together .- L. R. Johnson, Co. G, 58th Ill.,

## Living on the Reputation of others.

"Take everything that I have but my good name; leave me that and I am content." So said the philosopher. So say all manufacturers of genuine articles to that horde of imitators which thrives upon the reputation of others. The good name of ALLCOCK'S POROUS PLASTERS has induced many adventurers to put in the market imitations that are not only lacking in the best elements of the genuine article, but are often

The public should be on their guard against these frauds, and, when an external remedy is needed, be sure to insist upon having ALLCOCK'S POROUS PLASTER.

harmful in their effects.

Battery at Suffolk.



N your issue of April 26 appears an article from the pen of Thos. N. Y., in answer to J.
V. Albertson, 25th N.
J., in regard to the
crossing at Fredericks-Groody, Captain, 89th indorse all that Comrade Groody has said in of the battery at Suf-

folk, with this addition: remained across the river all night, where we

There was one incident that occurred at the fore the fort was entered were deprived of the | taking of this fort which I have never seen opportunity for personal knowledge of what | mentioned. The boys of the 89th will rememfollowed, and others are shown by what they ber that this fort was surrounded by a swamp, write, to have depended on hearsay princi- and the entrance could only be gained by passing over an ordinary road. When it became Now comes your correspondent (Depew), who | evident to the rebels that they could not esmay have belonged to any or all of these classes, | cape, they hoisted the white flag and hid in and adds to his disqualifications for writing | their bomb-proof (except one man). One gun about the matter, ignorance as to what brigade | loaded with canister was turned so as to sweep the corduroy road, and when our boys My article was written to show who took | were marching over said road this one man Fort Harrison, which was done by the First | pulled the lanyard and jumped in his hole, Division, Eighteenth Corps; what troops first | but owing to the fact that the cap failed to go entered it—the 58th Pa,—and who carried in | off our boys were spared; otherwise many, if not

ined to bed, where he had to return when the | cross in pontoon boats, during which time the It had been in that brigade and division | is only about a hundred men of them." A call for A charge by a brigade would have failed, as | tained on the spot .- F. FENNER, Principal

> It is a duty you owe to your comrades to get at least one new subscriber for THE NATIONAL

What Col. Pearsall Thinks of Adam Badeau. EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: The recent publication of Gen. Grant's letter to Gen. Badeau and the weak explanation of the latter

impels me to say a few words, viz: the Department of the Gulf, in August, 1862, Badeau came with him as Captain and A. D. C. I was then a Second Lieutenant in the 4th Wis, Cav. Gen. Sherman was assigned to the command of the Second Division of the Nineteenth Corps, to which our regiment belonged, On Sept. 2, 1862, I was detailed as Aid on the staff of Gen. Sherman, and served in that capacity until May 27, 1863. Gen. Sherman lost his leg at Port Hudson, and on that day Badeau was wounded in the foot. Badeau was corresponding with his political friends to get on Gen. Grant's staff long before the slege of Port Hudson, and Sherman was very willing to let nim go. He was what we would term now-adays a "dude." He wore his eye-glasses and kid gloves, and, in fact, was the laughing-stock of our Western officers. If he ever exhibited any military capacity, it was after he left the Department of the Gulf. Sherman frequently remarked to me that all he was good for was to entertain Southern ladies. My conclusion, therefore, is that what reputation he acquired was by reason of his relations to his Chief, whom we all know was too slow to shake off unworthy followers.

His letter to Grant is characteristic of the man. He was ambitions and selfish in the extreme; and while technically educated, had no natural ability. He was one of those appointed from civil life simply by political influence, regardless of merit, and was indebted to Grant for all he is or has been; and to be guilty of such base ingratitude as making such coldblooded demands upon Gen. Grant when he was on his deathbed should be enough to make all soldiers of the late war ignore and despise him. To those who knew Badean as I did it is no surprise. I only wonder that he did not go further and claim credit for planning some of Grant's campaigns; for, while he was lacking in almost everything else, he never was atcused of lacking conceit, and, in fact, had what is now ordinarily termed "cheek" to a superlative degree.-U. B. Pearsall, Second Lieutenant, Co. H, 4th Wis. Cav.; Colonel, 48th Wis., Fort Scott, Kan.

Have you done your duty in getting one more subscriber for THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE? You should do this, for it is the best way to help

Seeley's Battery at Gettysburg.

EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: E. J. Davis, 4th U. S. Art., in his card in The NATIONAL TRIBUNE of March 8, complaining of the injustice of Rafferty's "Third Corps at Gettysburg," ment Commander of the G.A.R. of Pennsyl- | is right in denying that it was Seeley's battery that was recovered by the Excelsior (Sickles's) Brigade near the close of the battle of Gettysburg, July 2, 1863. The battery recaptured diana, one of whom was a Chinaman, who had | was of four guns, and at 4 o'clock p. m., at the opening of the battle, was stationed near the disabled by disease and wounds. He has been | Emmittsburg road, in an old apple orehard, at receiving a pension of \$8 per month since date | the extreme right of Humphrey's Division. At of disability. His name is Thomas Sylvanus, | the time of the recapture the four guns were and under that name he served in the army. His | in the possession of the enemy, and instead of name might have been at one time Ah-Lin, Ah- their, "strange to say, never firing a shot," as Sin, or any other Chinese name. He is a citi- Rafferty says, they were working one of the zen of the United States, having been natural- guns with terrible effect on our lines, and were ized, but whether before or after the war the | manning and preparing to fire a second gun Six men of my command were cut down by

County, Pa., at the time above mentioned, and a discharge from the gun they were firing as was respected by all who knew him .- AUSTIN | we were about to make the charge. Two were killed on the spot, and of the others the only survivor, so far as I know, is Serg't Henry Funck, of Co. F, who had his ankle broken at that time, and who is now living at Pere Cheney, Mich. The charge was made by what represented three regiments of the brigade, the 2d, 3d and 4th, and a Pennsylvania regiment, then freshly entering the field, on our right. With the four guns were also captured the col-

Rafferty was never Colonel of the 2d Excelsior (the 71st N. Y). He was not in command of that regiment at any time during the battle of Gettysburg, and was not present with his regiment and colors when the charge recapturing that battery was made, and the charge was not made with a hurrah and a "cry of 'Boys, let's go back and get those guns,' " and that did not "end our fighting for that day," and the guns were not rigged with "drag ropes" with which to make rebel prisoners as Rafferty states in his "Third Corps at Gettysburg" articles in The National Tribune of Feb. 9. His account is largely imaginative. The guns were pushed a short distance to the rear, and what represented the brigade turned again to the front and continued the fight until the end, fresh troops arriving on our right. Lieut.-Col. John Leonard, new living at Newark, N. J., commanded the 3d Excelsior (72d N. Y.), and Lieut.-Col. Burns (now dead) the 4th (or 73d N. Y.), in that battle and during that charge, Burns carrying his colors and leading the charge,-H. L. POTTER, Colonel, 2d Excelsior (71st N. Y.), New York.

Have you asked all your acquaintances to subscribe for THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE? If not, do so at once, to give the paper more power in championing the cause of the veterans.

Suggestion to Barbers.

EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: I want to say one word for our paper in this way : I have run a barber-shop for about 12 years, and have six papers for my customers to read, but THE Na-TIONAL TRIBUNE is the one that allows the way. and it is appreciated, by the wear and tear on it. I cannot keep any on file; they are borrowed before I can use them. I do wish that other barbers would keep up with the times by keeping it in their shops. May it never die, is my sincere wish, -C. L. CHAPMAN.

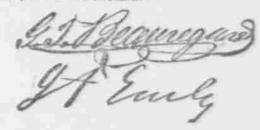
Crossing at Fredericksburg and Capture of the | | INPRECEDENTED ATTRACTIONS OVER A MILLION DISTRIBUTED.

PRIZE, \$300,000.

burg, etc. I wish to Louisiana State Lottery Company. Incorporated by the Legislature in 1868, for Educaregard to the capture spari of the present State Constitution, in 1878, by an

> Its Grand Single Number Drawings take place monthly, and the Grand Quarterly Drawings regularly every three months (March, June, September and December). "We do hereby certify that we supervise the ar-

> rangements for all the Monthly and Quarterly Drawings of The Louisiana State Lottery Company, and in person manage and control the Drongings themselves, and that the same are conducted with honesty, fairness, and in good faith toward all parties, and we authorize the Company to use this certificate, with fac-similes of our signatures oftached, in its advertisements."



We the undersioned Eirsks and Einskers will pay all Prizes men in the Louisiana State Letteries which may be prese tal at our considers. R. M. WALDISLEY, Pres. Louislann Nat- Ble.

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